

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus are disclosed for improving bodily safety during exposure to a monochromatic light source by diverging the monochromatic light, such as with a highly durable diffuser. At a first position of the distal end of the monochromatic light source the energy density of an exit beam from said distal end is substantially equal to the energy density of the monochromatic light required for desired applications and at a second position of the distal end the energy density of the light emitted therefrom is significantly less than the energy density of the monochromatic light. Accordingly, a laser unit suitable for aesthetic treatment, medical treatment or industrial treatment is converted into an eye safe laser unit. Eye safety is further enhanced by measuring the radiance of the divergent monochromatic light and issuing a warning as a result of a mishap if the radiance of the divergent monochromatic light is greater than a predetermined safe value, and if desired, generating a visible flash prior to the emission of a pulse of monochromatic light to induce an eye of a bystander to blink or to change its field of view in order to avoid staring at the monochromatic light.